the RARS
Exciter
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
RARS
Worldwide Friendship
January, 2001
Number 363
KD4SLQ congratulates a friend on completing the Raleigh Marathon
CAUTION
ARRL
SKYWARN
2nd Annual SKYWARN Conference February 17
Next RARS Meeting:
Tuesday, Jan 2nd
- Radio Programming -
Clinic

The Exciter

The ***Exciter*** is the monthly newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It is available in both printed and electronic form. The printed version is mailed to members just before each club meeting. The electronic form, in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, is e-mailed about a week earlier.

We solicit both articles and advertising. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the prior month. Contact the Editor.

The views contained in the Exciter are those of the individual authors, and are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, we incorporated a new RARS, and obtained 501(c)(3) Non-Profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through Amateur Radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining Amateur Radio licenses.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are $18.00 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay $5.00 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are $12.00 per year. Dues for non-licensed Associate members are $9.00 per year.

Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer, or the RARS web site (www.rars.org).

Officers

President	**Tim Nicholson KF4RTX** **501-7746** **kf4rtx@arrl.net**
Vice-President	**Bob Bryer K1RCB** **848-7761** **breyer@ix.netcom.com**
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Treasurer	**Greg Seamster KE4PAX** **859-0029** **seamster@nortelnetworks.com**
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SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB — ARRL

Info

Repeaters:

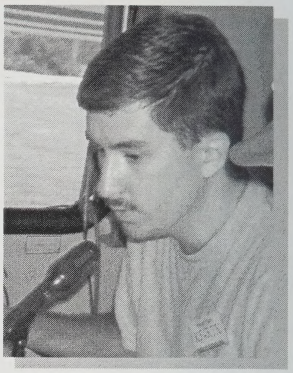
145.13
146.64
224.64
444.525 (88.5 PL)

Web Site:
http://www.rars.org

President's Corner

Tim Nicholson KF4RTX

A New Year for RARS



Happy New Year!

I trust everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. The New Year always brings about a time of review and renewal. Last year we achieved a victory at Field Day 2K in the 8A class. **RARSFest** was a success. We had three major public service events – the MS-150, the Red Cross/ State Fair operation, and the Raleigh Marathon – and several smaller events, all successful from the number of volunteers and a good job done by all. It was a great year. But now it's time to focus on the new year.

With the New Year come new faces on the RARS Board of Directors, and new committee chairs. I want to welcome Bob K1RCB, Greg KE4PAX, Bill KG4CXY, Hank K4HM, Jim KG4FIJ and Ashby KB5ZIH. I look forward to working with these folks in the coming year. If you have any questions for these members or any of the other board members, please feel free to ask. We'll do our best to answer your question or find a solution to your problem. We're here to serve you, the membership. Let us know what we can do for you.

The New Year also brings about a new slate of events for RARS. We have quite a few public service events that will be returning, and hopefully we will be adding to the list as the year progresses. I was very excited to see the turnout for the events last year, and I am looking forward to serving in several of them this year. I challenge each and every RARS member to participate in at least one event this year. It will give you a new respect for the role that ham radio plays in the community, and best of all, you'll have loads of fun!

This is also a good time to review your emergency preparedness. Last year, Johnny reminded us of things that we would need in the event of an emergency. How many items do you have in storage, ready in the event of an emergency or disaster? I know I need to review my list and start stocking now before it's too late. Just remember the story of the ant and the grasshopper. Let's not get caught empty handed when we are needed.

73!

Tune In The

RARS NEWS HOUR

- *Newsline*
- *ARRL Audio News*
- *R.A.I.N Report*

Sunday Nights following the RARS 8:00 Net on 146.64

Marathon Transmission

The first Raleigh Marathon brought a huge smile to Amateur Radio Coordinator Ralph Embry KF4NIR's face... once it was finally over! The Marathon had it's share of glitches, the biggest being a last-minute postponement for a week when a freak early winter storm threatened to dump more than a foot of snow on Raleigh. The snow never came, but all the logistics for the one-week delay had to be worked out anyway. In the end, though, there was joy, from more than 1000 runners who finished, hundreds of volunteers who made it all happen, and 35 tired, cold hams who provided communications for the event.

Ham operators put instant communications in the hands of key people who needed it. The course was divided into eight sectors, with a Sector Captain in charge of each. Hams shadowed the captains. Aid stations were set up about every two miles, with a ham and a medical team at each station (the course was actually two laps over mostly the same path, so there were actually only 8 aid stations). Hams provided several SAG wagons, the two race directors had ham shadows, we had two net control stations, a public display area at the Convention Center, and an APRS operation.

Communications planning for the Marathon began early last summer. RARS Public Service Director Bill Cole KG4CXY began talking to the Director, Butch Robertson, and Butch's Assistant Director, Kelly Andrews.

Kelly happens to be KD4EWG, so he knew just where to turn for help. And Bill quickly recruited Ralph Embry KF4NIR to head up the project. Ralph has been a long-term net control station on the RARS 8:00 net, and acted as Net Control for the Duke Triathlon in October. Bill and Ralph attended several Marathon planning meetings, and Ralph began recruiting hams. Like everyone else running Marathon logistics, Ralph had to scramble when the event was postponed, and line everyone up all over again. Most of the hams scheduled for the first weekend volunteered again for the second weekend.

The Saturday before the race, hams teamed up with their Sector Captains to review their section of the course, and test communications. Two separate nets were set up on two repeaters. The aid stations operated on the NCSU 146.775 repeater, and the SAG Wagons used KD4MYE's machine on 147.015. RARS' 146.64 machine was the backup, and some simplex activity took place on 147.42.

The biggest last-minute scramble was

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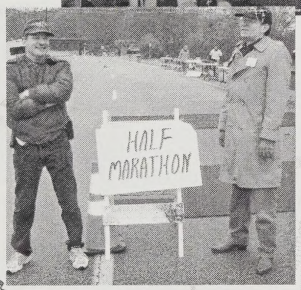


Clockwise: KF4NIR addresses the troops; KG4FIJ and KG4IZA at Mile 20, K1RCB with runner at Mile 10, KD4YJV and KD4ZMV at the half.

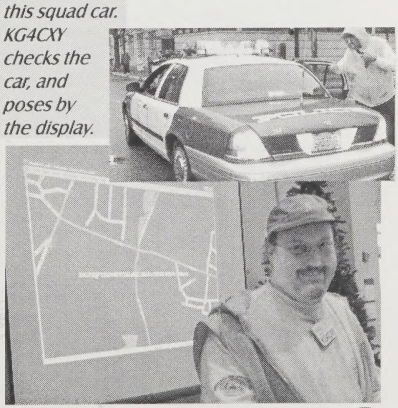
MARATHON HAMS:

KF4NIR - Ralph Embrey
KG4CXY - Bill Cole
AC4ZO - Jeff Wittich
KD4ISC - Dick Orander
KF4MMM - Bob Woodson
KF4LNX - Karl Ulrich
KC4WUH - Michael George
K4RLC - Bob Condor
K4NGJ - Byron King
KF4ZMV - Vince Heffron
KB2EHJ - Mark Wright
KG4IZA - Bob Scott
K1RCB - Bob Bryer
KD4BMA - Clement Matthews
KF4ZIX - Alicia Embrey
KG4FIQ - Larry Holt
KD4YJV - Gerry Cassara
KF4HQS - Richard Wehe
KG4CXW - Eric Haywood
WD4KSE - Mark Freeze
KD4SLQ - Wayne Blackwell
KF4UQZ - Liz Stanley
KN4AQ - Gary Pearce
WA4PM - Patrick Martin
N4UBH - Dave Love
KF4JKQ - Thomas Babb
KO4TV - Max Bloodworth
KG4AWG - Greg Johnson
KG4IYW - Joanie Johnson
K4JVP - John Van Pelt
W4HJD - Kevin Dunphy
KD4EWG - Kelly Andrews
KG4CXR - Denyse Walter
KG4FIJ - Jim Walter
KG4FMF - Aaron Huslage

FULCRUM
RALEIGH MARATHON
AND 5-K RUN
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD. 2000

KD4ISC and AC4ZO stay warm and dry as Net Control at the Civic Center. Lots of people saw ham radio in action.

The ill-fated APRS unit rode in the back of this squad car. KG4CXY checks the car, and poses by the display.



2nd SKYWARN Conference to feature Speaker from National Storms Lab

Thomas Babb KF4JKQ
Central Carolina SKYWARN EC

The Second Annual Central Carolina SKYWARN Conference is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, February 17, at 1 PM. The location is Jillian's, a well known night spot in Raleigh.

Program details are not final at ***Exciter*** press time, but the National Weather Service is planning to send one of the meteorologists from the **National Severe Storms Laboratory** in Norman, Oklahoma. The conference will also feature meteorologists from the Raleigh NWS office and area television stations.

Last year's conference was a great success. The hams attending learned a lot about the workings of the NWS and the broadcast meteorology operations, and the conference led to greater cooperation between all the participants in rapidly bringing accurate weather information to the public.

Jillian's is donating their large meeting room for the conference, and attendance is free. Everyone is invited to relax afterward, enjoy the club, talk about the weather, of course, and maybe have an early dinner.

We would like to get a rough idea of how many people may be coming. Please RSVP to: kf4jkq@arrl.net. And look for updates on www.CentralCarolinaSKYWARN.net.

SKYWARN Conference Info:

Date: Saturday, February 17
Time: 1:00 PM to about 4:30
Location: Jillian's
117 S. West St., Raleigh
RSVP: **kf4jkq@arrl.net**

North Carolina SKYWARN Joins NWS Special Event

Gary Pearce KN4AQ

Mark Gibson N4MQU felt a little like a rare DX station on Saturday, December 2nd. He was the object of a pretty deep pile-up while operating on 20 meters at the National Weather Service office in Raleigh, and all he had to do was announce the callsign *"KB1G, NWS Raleigh"* to unleash a new flood of calls. Mark became adept at picking out a critical bit of information to distinguish one callsign from another in the din... *"the station ending in W, go ahead..."*

This was all part of a special event coordinated by the ARRL and NWS to recognize Amateur Radio's contributions to weather reporting during severe weather. More than 40 stations operated from NWS offices around the country, and each generated pileups by hams who wanted to "work'em all" during the 24 hour period. Many contacts were made with current and retired NWS employees, SKYWARN spotters and weather enthusiasts.

The Raleigh operation was coordinated by Triad SKYWARN EC Bill Boyes KB1G. Bill set up an Icom 756 and a G5RV dipole, which he looped over a light pole in the parking lot (got it working on the third try). Bill also demonstrated an APRS station, and notes that APRS is used to report real-time weather information in the Triad and other parts of the country. The Raleigh station netted more than 400 contacts.

N4MQU on the receiving end of a pileup at the Raleigh NWS Office

Also participating in the operation were James Mass NØYAO and Bob Woodson KF4MMM, with visits by Central Carolina SKYWARN EC Thomas Babb KF4JKQ and KN4AQ. For more information on the event, visit this web page:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/event2000

HT Programming Clinic at January RARS Meeting

Gary Pearce KN4AQ

Your HT has dozens of memory channels. Maybe hundreds. And what do you have programmed? 64. 88. 52. That's it. A few of you might still be spinning the dial or punching in numbers on the keypad every time you QSY. And tone? *What's tone?*

Fact is, many hams on 2 meters operate only one or two familiar repeaters, and don't know or rarely go to the other machines around town. That's OK for daily operating... hey, do your own thing! But you need more flexibility for ARES, other emergencies, or just the ability to cover a different territory when a friend drives beyond the coverage of your home repeater.

To the rescue, the program for the January RARS meeting will be another HT Programming Clinic. We will split up into groups based on make and model of radio. We will provide worksheets with repeater lists showing frequency, offset and tone for all area repeaters. And the wizards and hotshots in the club will help you get that useful stuff into your radio. (You can get a head start by visiting the RARS web site - www.rars.org - and looking at the "Repeaters Around the Triangle" section).

WIZARDS WANTED! Are you one of the wizards and hotshots? Your fellow club members need you, whether they're new hams or just new to 2 meters. If you know a little about the area repeaters and can dump that information into an HT or two, you're who we're looking for. Please make it a point to come to the meeting.

COMPUTERIZE - DO IT THE EASY WAY! There is an alternative to punching in dozens of frequency/offset/tone combinations in your radio. Most of the new ones work with programming software and cables. You still have to determine what channels you want to load, but typing them into the computer is a lot easier than punching them into the radio's keypad. RARS VP Bob K1RCB has become a programming expert, and will have the hardware and software to show you how... and maybe program a few radios.

Bob has also worked a deal with ***RT Systems.*** At the meeting, you'll be able to order their software and cable for $30. They sell it on their web site for $39. That site is: www.cloningsoftware.com.

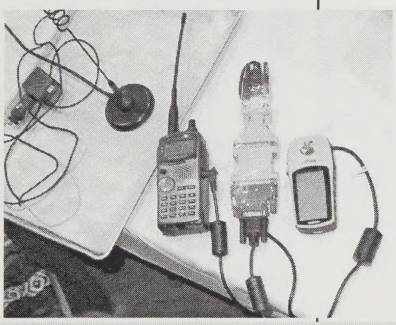
How about my Mobile? OK, you gotta program your mobile, too. The problem here is power and connector compatibility. I'll bring along a power supply that can take a cigarette lighter plug, bare wires and a couple of currently used in-line connectors. And I'll bring a dummy load.

BRING YOUR MANUAL!! We may be wizards, but you just may have a radio we don't know. Bring the manual, and we'll figure it out.

Extra Added Attraction: Radio Checkout! How's your radio working? Power up to snuff? Receiver sensitivity optimum? Tom Brown N4TAB will be bringing an IFR 1500, a very nice piece of test equipment that can measure all the important parameters of your rig - power, deviation, tones, sensitivity.

MARATHON *continued from page 3*

trying to complete the APRS station. Matt Sickles W2BYV had set up APRS for the original date, but business travel prevented him from volunteering for the delayed date. This was something of a crisis, because we had promised an APRS feed to be displayed on a large projector, showing the crowd at the finish line the step-by-step location of the lead runner. KG4CXY, K4LNX and KG4FMF worked late into the night Saturday getting the equipment working. A Kenwood D-7 HT with a Garmin GPS would ride in the back of the lead police car, and the data would be projected with a Street Atlas map.



Here's the APRS mobile equipment. Note the kluge of adapters between the HT and the GPS!

Sunday morning's call was 5:30 AM, well before the 7:30 AM start of the race. The hams got their last-minute instructions, and headed out to their assignments. Immediately, the usual reports of missing people and supplies filtered in, and race officials quickly responded to fill the gaps. We were supposed to have a police officer at our Net Control position to relay information between the hams and police... but none showed up. We found our contact at the starting line, barking instructions into his HT, and a ham was assigned to shadow him.

The race began, and more than 1000 runners surged down Salisbury St. in front of the Capitol, looped around downtown, and out into the neighborhoods. Police closed streets and blocked traffic, but the first and only accident of the race happened just minutes after the start .

The lone wheelchair entry, who started a few minutes ahead of the main pack, was hit by a car when the driver ran a police barricade and ignored an officer's instructions to stop. Police were on the scene, of course, and EMS was quickly called. The ham channels came alive with the report a minute later, and the police shadow operator assured everyone that the situation was under control. Another few tense minutes passed before we learned that the wheelchair racer was OK, though his wheelchair was badly damaged. A ham SAG wagon was dispatched to bring him back to the starting line.

The Aid Station net kept busy with routine traffic about supplies, personnel and traffic problems and logistic corrections. The SAG net was quieter, as the SAG vehicles roamed the course. Some runners were SAGged forward, and a few minor medical emergencies handled, but in general the entire race had few medical problems, especially considering the cold weather.

Both the police and ham radios erupted with the biggest problem of the day. The lead police car made a wrong turn, and brought dozens of runners along with it. The Sector Captain and her ham shadow were on the scene quickly, but there was some confusion as the police officer's directions didn't seem consistent with the course map. The error shortened the route taken by some runners by just a few blocks, and their times were adjusted slightly to take it into account. Amateur Radio allowed the Race Director to stay on top of the situation and keep it from becoming a big problem.

The biggest ham radio disappointment turned out to be the APRS display... or lack of it. After all the last-minute planning, testing and

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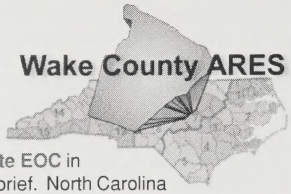
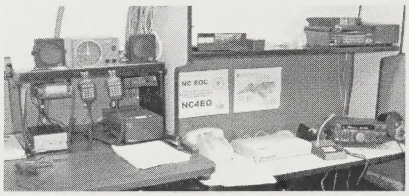
KG4FJA Appoints Assistant Wake ECs

Wake County ARES EC Ron Ford KG4FJA has appointed several assistant ECs as part of the rebuilding process at Wake Co. ARES. The new AECs are:

- Bill Ward KD4ISF
- John Guerriero KG4HDT
- Mark Gibson N4MQU
- Thomas Brown N4TAB



Wake ARES activated the State EOC in December. The activation was brief. North Carolina Emergency Management was supposed to have a Winter Weather Drill on the 7th, but real winter weather intruded the weekend before the drill. It looked bad for Wake County - ground zero for a foot of snow on Sunday the 3rd. The Raleigh Marathon was postponed a week. Sunday dawned cold but clear, while Wilson and Edgecomb counties got dumped on. Wake ARES was put on standby, and operators were scheduled for Sunday through Monday. But the activation was cancelled as the storm blew over.



It did give us a chance to make some equipment improvements, though. Gary KN4AQ moved the VHF-FM equipment over to the second desk, and mounted two speakers, making a two-person operation more comfortable.

And Jeff AC4ZO built a switchbox that allows listening to the Kenwood V7A with either headphones or speakers, or both. Ask Jeff about wiring the switch, and rewiring the switch... and re-rewiring the switch! But it works great. Jeff also cut a hole in the top of the "EMP" room that houses the State EOC shack, letting us bring in the new antenna and rotor cables.

Now that winter's here, we should be able to spend a good long day on the roof finishing the antenna installation. Tom Brown N4TAB is building a box full of Polyphaser lightning protection devices. We'll mount that, and connect the beam and rotor.

We do have a new problem at the State EOC, though. New elevator controllers have been installed, and they make a terrible racket across a wide spectrum, from below 3 MHz to above 6 MHz. When any of the three elevators is running (and during the week they run all the time), a hash at S9+20 wipes out all but the strongest signals on 75 meters. The noise is audible on 40 meters, but not nearly as strong. For the time being, weekday activations will have to include a home station to relay HF traffic from across the state. We're looking into solutions, but we don't expect a quick fix.

For more information on Wake County ARES, visit the web site at: **www.wakeares.org**.

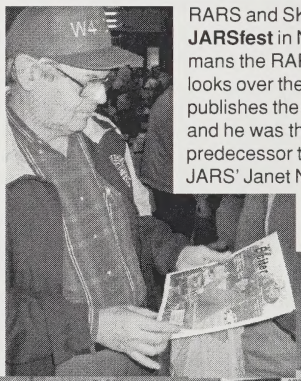
License Classes Coming in February

It's time to make some new hams! The **RARS Technician License Class** will swing back into operation beginning Monday, February 26th. We'll be following the usual schedule, Monday and Thursday from 7:30 to 9:30, at the usual place, the Nortel Technical Education Center on Rt. 54 west of the Fairgrounds. Fee for the class is $30, which includes the textbook ***Now You're Talking.*** If you know someone interested in getting their ham license, have them stop by the RARS web site - **www.rars.org** - or e-mail or call Gary Pearce KN4AQ at 380-9944.

No Code means... No Code. There is one big change. We will not be offering a code class along with the Tech class. The codemasters, Charlie W4VFJ and Neal N4HAF, will set up a separate code class for anyone in the club a little later in the year. Our experience over the past few years is that the code classes start off with a bang (more than 10 students), but fall off quickly. We'll also be switching to commercial code practice tapes.

EXTRA! EXTRA! Read all about it! Are you already a General, thinking about making the ultimate leap? Daunted by the math and engineering, now that the intimidating Advanced question pool has been lumped into the Amateur Extra test? Frank Lynch W4FAL is testing the waters for interest in an Amateur Extra upgrade class, probably beginning in February. Frank says he'll concentrate on the math, and you can study the rules and regs on your own. He'll use the ARRL Amateur Extra license manual. If you're interested, give him a call at 217-1999, or e-mail W4FAL@sera.org.

Snapshots from JARSfest



RARS and SKYWARN share a corner at the **JARSfest** in November. *Below:* Jeff AC4ZO mans the RARS table. *Left:* Dave W4YDY looks over the November ***Exciter.*** Dave publishes the Brightleaf ARC ***Ham Chatter***, and he was the editor for the ***RARS News***, predecessor to the ***Exciter***. *Lower left:* JARS' Janet N4WPX sells (and eats) the world-famous JARSBurgers! Mmmmmm....

RARS Bylaws Proposed for January Vote

The following pages contain a set of bylaws proposed for the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society by the Board of Directors. These bylaws will be presented to the membership for ratification at the January club meeting. Some of you may recall that the Board dissolved the club in 1999, and a new club was incorporated using the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society name. The new club, which you are all members of, applied for and received IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status, enabling RARS to accept tax-deductible contributions. The new club was formed by filing Articles of Incorporation with the State. The Articles allow us to establish Bylaws for governing routine club operations.

Please look them over. If you have any questions before the meeting, you can e-mail President Tim KF4RTX (kf4rtx@arrl.net).

We the members of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc., do hereby declare that the following rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the laws of the State of North Carolina and the Articles of Incorporation of this Society, shall be our governing law.

Section 1 - OBJECTIVE

The primary objectives of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society are education and public service. Education shall generally be in radio communication techniques and obtaining of radio amateur licenses. Public service is the providing of radio communications in times of disaster, emergency and civic need.

Section 2 - MEMBERSHIP

All persons interested in amateur radio shall be eligible to apply for membership. Duly licensed amateurs may only apply for FULL membership in the Society. Sixty percent (60%) of the entire membership of the Society shall be "FULL" members. (A person interested in amateur radio is defined as an individual interested in radio technique, good fellowship, and civic activity solely without pecuniary interest.) Persons that are not licensed may only apply for ASSOCIATE membership. In addition, licensed amateurs living in the same household as a full member may apply for a "FAMILY MEMBER" membership. A FAMILY MEMBER is entitled to all the privileges of a FULL member, but does not receive club mailings. Only FULL members and FAMILY MEMBERS shall have the right to vote at meetings of the Society on matters of business or policy. Membership shall be accepted on application to the Society, and payment of dues.

Special Life Membership may be awarded, upon recommendation by the Board and by a majority vote of the FULL members present at a regular meeting, to a member of the Society for special services performed for the Society and for Amateur Radio. A Special Life Member pays no dues and is entitled to all the privileges of Full membership.

Honorary membership may be awarded upon recommendation by the Board and by a majority vote of the FULL members present at a regular meeting, to a non-member, of the Society for special services performed for the Society and for Amateur Radio. An honorary member pays no dues and is entitled to all the privileges of FULL membership except voting.

Section 3 - OFFICERS

The Society shall have four officers, which shall be named as follows: 1) President; 2) Vice President; 3) Secretary; 4) Treasurer. Each officer shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older and a "FULL" member of the Society. Each candidate for office in the Society shall have been a member of the Society for a minimum period of one year prior to his or her election to office.

a) Tenure of office - Staggered Elections

The term of office for all officers of the Society shall be for two (2) years. The term of office for the President and Secretary in the first year of operation (1999) shall be one (1) year. (Thus elections for a new President and Secretary shall be conducted in the month of November 1999, and in the ODD years thereafter.)

The Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected for two (2) year terms commencing in the second year of operation (2000) and for two (2) year terms at all succeeding elections. (Thus elections for the Vice President and the Treasurer, after the initial election in November, 2000, shall occur in November 2002, and in the EVEN years thereafter.)

It shall be possible for a Society officer to be nominated and elected to another office. For example, the Vice President might be nominated and elected to the office of President during the odd year elections. In this event, the former office shall be declared vacant subsequent to the election to the new office, and a special election shall be held to fill the remaining term of the former office.

b) Nomination and Election of Officers

Nominations for all offices in the Society shall be submitted to the membership at the first regularly constituted business meeting in the month of October in the year in which the elections fall due. All nominations will be noted in the official minutes of the Society by the Secretary. Elections by open ballot shall be held at the first regularly constituted business meeting in the month of November following the nominations. The newly elected officers shall be invested with the rank of office at a meeting of the membership in the month of December following, and shall assume the duties of office as of January 1 of the new year.

A majority of the FULL members present at a regular meeting shall be necessary to constitute a valid election of officers, subject to the provisions of Section 6.

In case of two candidates for the same office, that candidate receiving the largest total vote shall be declared the winner. In the case of three or more candidates for the same office, that candidate receiving a majority vote shall be declared the winner. If no one candidate receives a majority vote, a runoff election shall be conducted between the top two candidates, and the candidate receiving the largest total vote in the runoff election shall be declared the winner.

There shall be no restrictions as to the number of times (consecutively or otherwise) that a qualified member of the Society may hold the same or another office in the Society.

c) Actions to remove Officers

Any officer may be removed for just cause upon an affirmative vote for removal by 75% of the FULL voting membership in person or by proxy at a regular meeting. Proxies shall not exceed 50% of the full voting membership. The Secretary shall notify all FULL members of the Society by mail of the action to be considered prior to the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

d) Duties of Officers

1) PRESIDENT - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and shall conduct the same according to the rules adopted; enforce due observance of the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws;

continued on next page

Bylaws - continued from previous page

decide all questions of order; sign all official documents that are adopted by the Society, and none other; and perform all customary duties pertaining to the office of President.

2) VICE PRESIDENT - The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the President, and shall, when so requested, aid the President in the performance of his or her duties. The Vice President shall be responsible for coordination of programs for regular meetings and all Society functions.

3) SECRETARY - The Secretary shall maintain a neat and accurate written record of the proceedings at all meeting of the Society (minute book) which shall be available for inspection at all times; sign the official minutes after each meeting; file and be responsible for answering all Society correspondence; maintain the Society stationary and seal; bring pertinent correspondence to the attention of the Society at each meeting; distribute the minutes of the preceding meeting prior to the next meeting or read the minutes of the preceding meeting at the next meeting, and notify the entire membership of any special actions to be taken by the Society, and generally perform all other appropriate duties which pertain to the Secretary of the Society.

4) TREASURER - The Treasurer shall maintain the Society ledger in a neat and accurate fashion by the cash receipts method. The ledger shall be open for inspection at all times. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining the Society bank accounts in a institution of sound financial structure and good reputation; retain and file all canceled checks of the Society, all receipts of expenditures, and shall issue receipts for dues paid by members upon request. The Treasurer shall give quarterly financial reports to the Board (or more often upon request) and shall present to the membership an annual financial statement at the end of each fiscal year. Prior to presentation of the annual financial statement the Society's financial records shall be examined by an ad hoc committee designated by the Board. The Treasurer shall maintain, and publish twice yearly, a separate and accurate record of the entire membership of the Society with addresses, telephone numbers, grade of license, class of membership in the Society, and whether a member of the ARRL; and be responsible for answering any inquiries or questionnaires from Federal or State taxing authorities. The Treasurer shall maintain all Society financial documents and records in an adequate and easily identified location, and shall keep the Board advised of its status.

5) GENERAL - Each officer shall be responsible, at the end of his or her term in office, for turning over all records and items belonging to the Society to the successor, and to indoctrinate the successor as to the respective duties of the office.

e) Vacancy in Office

Any vacancy occurring in one of the Society offices more than six (6) months before the end of the term for that particular office shall be filled by special election.

If the vacancy occurs in one or more of the Society offices with six (6) months or less left in the term for that office, the vacancy shall be filled as follows:

1) If the vacancy occurs in the office of the President than the Vice-President, in addition to his or her own duties, shall assume the duties of that office.

2) If the vacancy occurs in the office of Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer the position shall be filled by appointment by the Board.

Section 4 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Society shall have a board consisting of no less than seven directors. The officers of the Society shall serve as directors of the Society and the election of Society officers shall also constitute the election of those officers to the Board of Directors. In addition, the immediate past president shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors. Chairpersons of standing committees shall be elected to their chair and simultaneously to the Board in the same manner as the officers. Additional directors at large may be nominated and elected to the Board.

The Board shall have broad powers to plan Society activities and to conduct Society business except for those items of business reserved for the FULL membership by the By-Laws of the Society. Decisions made by the Board, acting within its authority, shall require concurrence of a majority of the board members present at a regular board meeting.

a) Budgets - Disbursements - Issuance of Checks - Saving Account

A budget shall be prepared by the Treasurer, with input from the membership, and submitted to the Board at the beginning of each fiscal year, which shall start on July 1 and end on June 30. The budget shall identify by categories known and predictable disbursements of Society funds. After approval by the Board the budget shall be submitted to the membership at a regular meeting. Approval of the budget by the membership shall provide sole and sufficient authorization to the Treasurer to disburse Society funds in each of the categories up to its approved maximum. During the fiscal year the Board may authorize reapportionment of funds among the categories. No Society checks may be issued that exceed the budget. The Treasurer is authorized to issue Society checks that are not expenditures, but are merely for handling of money such as the payment to the seller at a Society auction, or as a cash advance.

Non-budgeted expenditures up to two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00) may be authorized by the Board. Non-budgeted expenditures in excess of two hundred fifty dollars shall require both Board and membership approval. Non-budgeted authorizations become part of the annual budget for the current year.

All Society funds exceeding that required for operating expenses shall be transferred from the Society checking account to a savings account to be opened by the treasurer. All Society funds shall be held in accounts that are fully insured by an agency of the Federal Government.

At the beginning of each fiscal year, or other times as necessary, the Board shall review and make appropriate changes to signature authority for all Society financial accounts.

Section 5 - DUES

The annual dues payable to the Society shall be established by the Board and approved by the membership for all classes of membership.

Family membership shall be allowed for one-or-more additional members of a members family. The family membership shall be limited to spouse, children, parents, brothers, and sisters whether-or-not they reside at the same address as the member.

Dues for existing members are payable at the start of each fiscal year. Members who haven't paid their dues by October 15, of the current fiscal year, shall be dropped from the roster. Reinstatement for the current fiscal year shall be made upon full payment of the dues.

Section 6 - QUORUM TO CONDUCT BUSINESS

Notwithstanding other provisions of the By-Laws, ten percent (10%) of the FULL voting membership must be present at a regularly scheduled meeting to be considered a quorum.

A Board meeting shall require a minimum of (7) of the current

continued on next page

Bylaws - continued from previous page

board members to be considered a quorum. No proxies shall be accepted for either a quorum or for voting.

Section 7 - AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Amendments to the By-Laws shall be presented by the Board to the membership at any regularly constituted business meeting. The Secretary shall note the proposed amendment in the official minutes and notify the FULL membership by mail of the proposed action before the meeting at which the vote is to be taken. The membership shall then vote on the proposed amendment at the next regularly constituted business meeting. The majority vote in the affirmative of the FULL members present at a regular meeting shall be necessary to adopt the amendment, subject to the provisions of Section 6.

Section 8 - CONDUCT AT MEETINGS

A current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order" shall be maintained by the Secretary, and shall govern proceedings of the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or the By-Laws of the Society.

Section 9 - COMMITTEES

The Board may designate committees or individuals to oversee or perform the various Society activities. The chairpersons of standing committees shall be subject to election by the FULL membership to their positions and simultaneously to the Board of directors.

Section 10 - ARRL AFFILIATION

Affiliation with the American Radio Relay League, Inc., will be commenced as soon as the Society can qualify. Affiliation with the League shall continue perpetually as long as the Society meets and upholds the qualifications. However, League membership is not a requirement for membership in the Society.

Section 11 - POLITICAL AND PERSONAL ACTIVITIES FORBIDDEN

The Society as an organized body shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

No part of the assets or income of the Society shall be distributed to or expended toward the benefit of any member, Director or Officer of the Society or and private individual. However, reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Society affecting one or more of its purposes.

Section 12 - REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

Any member may be removed for just cause upon an affirmative vote for removal by 75% of the FULL voting membership in person or by proxy at a regular meeting. Proxies shall not exceed 50% of the FULL voting membership. The Secretary shall notify all FULL members of the Society by mail of the action to be considered prior to the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

Section 13 - MEETINGS

a) Regular Meetings

Society meetings shall be conducted on a regular monthly basis, at a suitable site whose location had been previously communicated to the membership by means of the newsletter.

b) Board Meetings

Board meetings shall be conducted on a regular monthly basis, at a suitable site whose location had been previously communicated to the membership by means of the newsletter. The Board meetings shall be open to all Society members.

Section 14 - POST OFFICE BOX

A post office box shall be maintained to act as the Society's official address and to receive its mail.

Section 15 - SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter shall be published monthly and mailed to all members to provide them with Society and amateur radio news. The newsletter shall be considered an acceptable means for notifying the membership about forthcoming activities and actions.

Section 14 - DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the association, the Directors shall pay or make provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the association, and the balance of all money and other property remaining received by the association from any source shall be used or distributed exclusively for purposes within the intent of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as the same now exists or as it may be amended from time to time, or the Board of Directors may distribute all the remaining assets to such organization or organizations formed and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or benevolent purposes as shall at that time qualify as an exempt organization under the Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of any future United States statutes.

Or, the Board of Directors may elect, upon dissolution of the association, to sell the assets of the association and to distribute the proceeds from such sale as provided in the preceding paragraph. ■

VE Test Session Fee Jumps

Fees for both the ARRL and W5YI VEC ham license tests will take a big jump beginning January 1st. The new fee will be $10, up from $6.65 during 2000. The ARRL's ***Amateur Radio News*** web page reports that:

> An FCC Public Notice released [Dec. 4th] explained that the Commission did not plan to announce a maximum reimursement fee for 2001 since the requirement to do so no longer appears in the Communications Act.
>
> For now, the FCC says, it will suspend enforcement of the fee provision, §97.527(b), which continues to appear in Part 97 of the FCC rules.

Both the ARRL and W5YI said that their expenses administering the VECs were greater than the revenue from the fees. At least one VEC, the Laurel VEC operating out of Maryland, has not charged any fee.

The RARS VEs, which operate under the W5YI VEC, will charge the new $10 fee.

Club Meeting Minutes

December 5th, 2000

The regular meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was held on December 5, 2000 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on Clark Avenue

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 by President Tim Nicholson, KF4RTX, who welcomed 52 members and 10 guests.

The annual installation of Officers and Board members was held (see photo on back cover of the ***Exciter***). The following were installed by Chuck Littlewood K4HF: 2 year terms as Officers are Vice President - Bob Bryer, K1RCB; Treasurer - Greg Seamster, KE4PAX. For one year terms on the Board of Directors are Public Service Director - Bill Cole, KG4CXY; Education Director - Lynn Pitegoff, KO4QH; Exciter Editor - Gary Pearce, KN4AQ; RARS Membership Chair - Denyse Walter, KG4CXR; RARS Net Manager - Bill Cole, KG4CXY; At-Large Director - John Jascolka, N4YRD; At-Large Director - Alan Pitegoff; ARRL Liaison - Chuck Littlewood, K4HF. The positions of Field Day Chair and FM Repeater Chair remain open. Also, the following committee chairs are nominated: RARS Volunteer Examiner Coordinator - Charlie Brown, W4VFJ; RARS Librarian - Jim Walter, KG4FIJ; RARS Web Master - Ashby Spratley III, KB5ZIH; W4DW, W4RNC Trustee - Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO. (applause)

*Above: The **Grains of Time** from NCSU perform at the December RARS meeting, while to the left, club members and their families enjoy the deli buffet put together by Cyndi Pearce KD4ACW.*

If you're still hungry, think about stopping by the RARS Dinner, sponsored by the Crystals, at Fat Daddy's on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Don't let K4DAM's stare scare you off... he always looks like that!

At this point, the membership was invited to the visit the food mill. Sandwiches and veggies were provided by the Club, thanks to Cyndi KD4ACW.

Gary KN4AQ then took the stage in grand fashion, and recited a bit of poetry which he has coined, "A Ham's Night Before Christmas".

Also, ***Grains Of Time***, a musical group from NCSU, provided entertainment.

Door prizes went to W2JNW, N4YRD, KG3CXT, and AB4OZ.

Jeff Wittich AC4ZO, Secretary

MARATHON *continued from page 5*

problem solving, there was some confusion delivering the APRS unit to the lead police car. In the rushed setup, the frequency knob on the HT was bumped, knocking it 30 kHz off frequency. Off it went, with no time to test the signal and no way to find out what went wrong. Back at the convention center, the APRS display sat with a red dot parked at the starting line, and the police car couldn't be stopped to check the transmitter.

K4LNX did finally chase down the lead car with four miles to go. He discovered the problem, and tracked the lead runner into the finish. Then he transferred the APRS equipment to the trail police car and following the last runner (make that *walker*). There, it functioned well and told everyone where the end of the Marathon was. The last runners to finish are treated almost as heroically as the first, as Race Director Butch Robertson went out to finish the last mile with the final runners.

With the Marathon completed, the runners dispersed, the hams packed up their equipment and headed home, and Ralph had that big grin. He can't wait for next year! ■

Join Us At The RARS Dinner

Every 4th Tuesday, 6:30 pm at Fat Daddy's on Glenwood Ave.

Board Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2000

The monthly Board meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was held at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on November 21. The meeting was called to order by President Tim Nicholson KF4RTX at 7:36p. Members present at that time were: KN4AQ, KG4CXR, KG4CXY, K4HM, KF4RDP, KF4RTX, N4YRD, N4YTO and AC4ZO. The total attendance was 12.

On motion by KF4RTX, seconded by N4YTO, the minutes of the October meeting were approved as amended.

N4YTO gave the Treasurer's report. He said that membership stands at 288.

In the Vice President's report, KF4RTX Tim said that the December meeting will be the Holiday Party as usual. Entertainment will be provided by a choral music group from NCSU.

Committee Reports:

KN4AQ reported for the Education Department. He said that the Spring class is scheduled to begin in late February, and that W4FAL is considering conducting a higher class upgrade program.

KG4CXY gave the Net Manager report. He listed the special interest nets, and spoke in general terms about RARS net activity. Now speaking about Public Service, Bill said a few words about the upcoming Raleigh Marathon scheduled for December 3.

KF4RTX reported on the web site. He reported that the handoff to the newly elected Webmaster is going smoothly.

(At this point, one of the Board members, who just learned of an ***Exciter*** mailing operation to be held after the meeting, left the premises to procure a dozen donuts for the later activity).

In the Membership Services report, KG4CXR asked for a new item to be added to the agenda concerning a new member package.

K4HM reported on the Hamfest committee. A successful meeting of the Hamfest committee was held in which the budget was scrutinized. Recruiting for committee chairs is going well, with one major position still to be filled.

Old Business:

The issue of the **Articles Of Incorporation** was brought up. The new filing has been made, and a discussion was heard concerning the adoption of the bylaws. N4YTO made a motion that we make copies of the proposed bylaws available at the December meeting; That the proposed bylaws be published in the January ***Exciter***; and that a vote be held at the January General meeting. The motion was seconded by KF4RDP. After a small amount of discussion, KF4RDP made a motion to Call the Question. The motion was seconded by N4YTO, and this subsequent motion passed. The original motion was read by the Secretary, and eventually passed.

AC4ZO reported on the Financial Review committee.

An item was carried over from last month concerning RARS logo apparel. K4HM investigated several vendors, and brought his report to the Board. He found a place that could produce the badges for $2.50 each, with a minimum order of 200 pieces. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that K4HM would procure samples of patches from various vendors. The item will be dropped until such samples are made available

New Business:

AC4ZO made a motion that we cancel the December Board meeting. The motion was seconded by N4YRD, and was carried.

An item was brought up concerning the installation of the new Officers and Board members. The item was disposed of by AC4ZO taking the action to arrange the procedure with K4HF.

KG4CXR brought up the idea of a Welcome Package of information for new members. A few ideas of materials to be included were discussed, and no action was taken by the Board.

KG4CXY, speaking as the Public Service Director, presented the idea of procuring magnetic signs for official vehicles on Public Service Events. The total estimated cost is $600. A motion was made by N4YTO, seconded by AC4ZO that we authorize the expenditure of up to $600 for the procurement of such signs. The motion passed.

Comments and Announcements:

N4YTO commented on his term as Treasurer. KN4AQ led the Board in a round of applause for David, the outgoing Treasurer.

Also, he said there is an ARES event coming up on December 7, and described the expected activity.

KF4RTX expressed his regret as he steps down from the Board.

Tim, KF4RTX expressed his gratitude to all for assisting him in his capacity as Vice President.

With the business complete, on motion by AC4ZO, the meeting adjourned at 9:40p.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Wittich AC4ZO, Secretary

Tech/Trader Net

8:30 Saturday on 64

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the RARS Exciter
January, 2001

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Snapshots

The officers, board and committee chairs took their solemn oath of office at the December meeting. Here's the seedy bunch that will run RARS in 2001):

Greg KE4PAX - Treasurer; **Ashby KB5ZIH** - Webmaster; **Bob K1RCB** - Vice President; **Lynn KO4QH** - Education; **Alan AB4OZ** - Director at Large (Alan's face is barely showing over Gary's shoulder); **Gary KN4AQ** - Exciter Editor; **Tim KF4RTX** - President; **Chuck K4HF** - ARRL Liaison; **Denyse KG4CXR** - Membership; **Jim KG4FIJ** - Librarian; **Jeff AC4ZO** - Secretary/Trustee; **Charlie W4VFJ** - Lead VE; **John N4YRD** - Director at Large.
Not shown is **Bill KG4CXY** - Public Service Director/Net Manager.

Hamfest Calendar

January 21: Richmond, VA ***Frostfest***
February 11: Elkin
March 10/ 11: Charlotte
March 25: Kinston
April 8: **RARS*fest***

courtesy of the **SERA Repeater Journal**